



# The Mainsheet

Volume VIII | August 2019



Dear Sea Star Base Galveston Supporter & Friend,  
Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Glenn Urbach, and it is my honor to serve as your new SSBG Executive Director. For the past 12 years, I have served as an executive director for several non-profit organizations in the Houston area. I find this position to be challenging yet rewarding that combines my passion for helping others and my compassion for those I serve. My experience involves taking non-profit organizations to their next level of growth, and that's my goal for SSBG.

In addition to my non-profit executive director experience, I have served as a senior auditor for a \$20,000,000 annual federal HIV/AIDS grant; the Director of Transportation Services for Harris County; and lastly, as a court-appointed legal guardian for mentally incapacitated adults. My professional career in Houston and Galveston spans 25-years.

While I have only been in the executive director position for a month, I see significant growth potential at SSBG; both in strengthening and expanding our youth and community programs and in growing our revenue streams. SSBG is truly a unique and needed organization with a variety of maritime education and outreach programs you will find nowhere else in Texas. We teach youth, families, and disabled individuals to the wonders of sailing; boating; oceanography; and conservation. In doing so, SSBG's programs instill a lifetime knowledge of team building and leadership skills while strengthening the mind, body, and soul. I have found our staff to be very knowledgeable about our programs and passionate about the clients we serve. As necessary, our Board of Directors works to ensure SSBG's mission is safeguarded, and its vision becomes a reality.

Again, it is my honor to serve as SSBG's new executive director.  
All that we do, we do for you, so thank you!

Glenn Urbach, LMSW  
Executive Director  
Sea Star Base Galveston

**TIME TO  
BOOK  
YOUR**

*Events!*

**CALLING ALL FALL  
BRIDES!  
SAVE \$500  
ON YOUR WEDDING!**



It's time to say "I Do!" at our beautiful waterfront venue! Be sure to take advantage of SSBG's latest **FALL SAVINGS**. **Save \$500** when you purchase our Fall Wedding Package – the ultimate waterfront wedding experience. Call (409) 572-2560 or inquire online at [www.ssbgalveston.org/events](http://www.ssbgalveston.org/events).

**\*The special rate for weddings includes those booked from September through November 2019 only.**

**BOOK YOUR  
HOLIDAY PARTY  
WITH SSBG TODAY!**



Sea Star Base Galveston's gorgeous 3,600 sq. ft. banquet hall features floor to ceiling window views of Offatts Bayou, Galveston Bay, and The Moody Garden Pyramids. We are fully equipped with a state of the art sound system, large drop-down screen for presentations, a fully-outfitted commercial kitchen, and seating for up to 275 attendees. Call (409) 572-2560 or go to [www.ssbgalveston.org/events](http://www.ssbgalveston.org/events).

## **Erickson Family Returns Home to Washington**

Everyone,  
I want to take this opportunity to thank my SSBG family, including crew, members, volunteers, and supporters, for their immense support and camaraderie over the last three years. It has been an absolute pleasure working alongside all of you and I cherish the many memories made here. As my husband nears completion of the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at



UTMB Galveston, we've come to the conclusion that more opportunity exists for our family back home in Washington state, where the family business and family members on both sides reside. Thank you all so much for making my time at SSBG a delightful one!!

Amy Erickson  
Special Events Director  
Sea Star Base Galveston

## FISHING IS A HUGE HIT AT SSBG!

Capt. Cody Dunn, SSBG's very own professional angler, had outstanding program participation this summer!

- 51 program participants in May.
- 372 Aquatic Adventure campers dropped their first hook in June & July!

**A total of 423 participants, and the summer is not over yet! WOW!!!**

We are very grateful and appreciative for the support for SSBG Fishing Programs from the following community members:

- **Willard Franklin**, who is the owner of 4W's fishing team and is sponsored by Bass Pro Shop, donated 20 gently used rod and reels.
- **Michael Scherer**, who works for Fishing's Future and Texas Coastal Brigades, donated five brand new rod and reels.

We cannot thank these gentlemen enough for their generosity and thoughtfulness!



## Upcoming Fishing Programs:

**August 17th  
FISHING BASICS**

# September 21st FAMILY OR GROUP FISHING

REGISTER HERE for FISHING!

## SSBG GRANTS & SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATES

### Camp Scholarships for Community Youth Development Program



With generous underwriting from The Moody Foundation and a gift from Barbara and Dominic Sassar, SSBG provided 52 scholarships for young people living in Galveston to attend summer camp this year. The positive impacts of going to camp as a learning and growth experience are many. Summer camp is a unique venue for allowing kids to become independent and self-confident, while socializing and making new friends, and even learning new skills. Differing from school and after-school extracurricular activities, the camp is an excellent, distraction-free option for the summer, and also allows students to have a great time during a camp experience and to "kick the tires" on new interests that may turn into a lifetime pursuit. Nautical adventure activities included dingy sailing, kayaking, fishing, scuba diving, and swimming for ages 8 to 17 years old.

### SSBG Received Texas Parks and Wildlife Grant

At the beginning of the summer, SSBG's was awarded a \$48,000 grant by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to support both operations and programming. This is the first State grant received by the Base, which in itself may not be groundbreaking. However, this achievement for the Base is without a doubt a benchmark.

The press release indicated that 36 grants were awarded. Over the phone, the TPWD office informed SSBG Grant Writer, Chelby King, that there were 68 applicants which means only 1/2 of the applicants were funded. SSBG received the only grant for Galveston Island.

## COMMUNITY, YOUTH & ADAPTIVE SAILING

**Welcome New Youth Sailing Members!**

We are glad to welcome **Andrew and Leslie Farrant, Jaden Strickand, Kiera Brace, Gunnar Rodney, Tyde Miller, and Maxime and Olympia McCulloch** in Saturday Youth Sailing. Maxime and Olympia are our youngest sailors to ever participate in the program. This batch of fresh recruits is very promising and highlights the growing success of Galveston's Community Youth Sailing Center.



**Youth Saturday Sailing will continue as scheduled through October. We will be canceling the program on October 12th on account of the Harvest Moon Regatta.**

### **Youth Sailor of the Month**

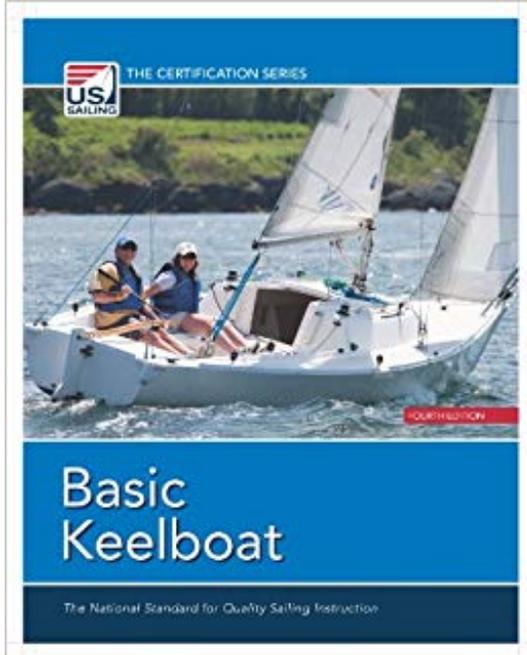


The youth sailor of the month is **Sam Belanger** who joined Community Youth Sailing just over a year and a half ago. He progressed extremely fast and graduated to the advanced group in under six months. Sam, and his teammate, **Will Abel**, have grown into good sailors together and exemplify the spirit of good teamwork and

sportsmanship. Their goal is to be the founding members of a Galveston based youth racing team. Sam is also the proud owner of an S2 he purchased from us last winter, as well as a Hobie Catamaran he takes his friends on. He inspires other young sailors to go faster and become better sailors. Keep up the good work Sam!

### **U.S. Sailing Keelboat Class**

U.S. Sailing, the National Governing Body for the sport of sailing, has been serving sailors since 1897 and our commitment to our more than 45,000 members is to provide a safe, fun and successful experience. U.S. Sailing developed a certification system that makes learning to sail easy,



fun, and supports you as you work to achieve your goals. All of these programs are designed to help you learn safely and with confidence. SSBG, an accredited U.S. Sailing school, will be holding a U.S. Sailing Basic Keelboat Class August 9th through 11th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. There will be a 1-hour lunch break. Completion of this U.S. Sailing Basic Keelboat Class will allow you to bareboat charter a sailboat up to 28'. This course is designed for any skill level; from a total novice to a seasoned sailor wanting to refresh their skills. If you are interested register at the link below.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

**LECTURE SERIES - NEW CLASS!**

# COASTAL NAVIGATION AND PLOTTING

INSTRUCTED BY CAPT. KEVIN SOMERS

SEA STAR BASE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR 2017 AND MASTER MARINER KEVIN SOMERS COMES TO US WITH 48 YEARS MARINE NAVIGATION EXPERIENCE.

CAPT. SOMERS HAS 11 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN THE BRITISH MERCHANT NAVY AS A NAVIGATION OFFICER AND 36 YEARS IN MARINE SURVEYING. CAPT. KEVIN VOLUNTEERS REGULARLY AT SSBG WITH COMMUNITY SAILING PROGRAMS, ON THE BAYSMART EXPRESS AND BAREBOAT CHARTERS IN THE BVI - JUST FOR FUN!



## WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- ✦ COMPASS CORRECTIONS
- ✦ POSITION FIXING
- ✦ TIME AND DISTANCE COMPUTATION
- ✦ DEAD RECKONING
- ✦ PASSAGE PLANNING
- ✦ SET & DRIFT CALCULATIONS
- ✦ TIDE COMPUTATIONS
- ✦ READING A NAUTICAL CHART

**ONLY 6 SPOTS LEFT!**

THIS CLASS WILL BE AT 0800 - 1400 WITH 17TH IN THE CLASSROOM AND THE 18TH ON THE WATER. THE COST IS \$350 FOR NON-MEMBERS AND \$300 FOR MEMBERS.

**REGISTER EARLY SPACE IS LIMITED!**



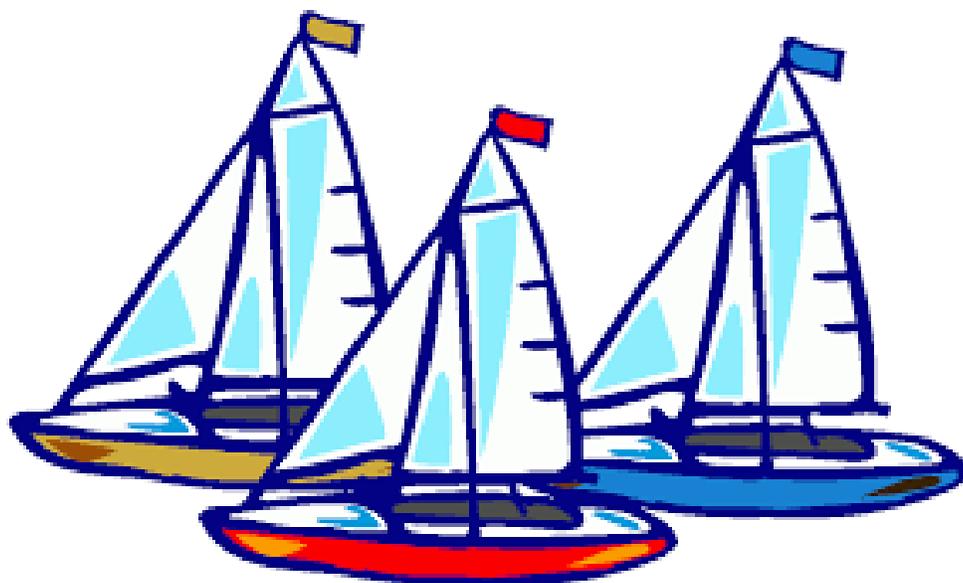
**REGISTER ONLINE**

AUGUST 17TH & 18TH  
(2 SEVEN HOUR SESSIONS)

7509 BROADWAY, GALVESTON, TX 77554  
DOOLIN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM 510, 5TH FLOOR



[REGISTER HERE FOR COASTAL NAVIGATION COURSE](#)



## Wednesday Night Racing Series #2

After 21 races, the top three teams are:

1. With 48 pts- "**Glenmorange and the 2 Samplers**" team includes **David Gaston, Kevin Somers, Larry Brasfield**
2. With 56 pts - "**Young Guns**" team includes **Sean O'Rourke, Clay Conrad, Chris Shannon**
3. With 63 pts - "**Mean Greene**" team includes **Tom Greene, Brittney Daniels, Matt Coulson, and Clement Jardin.**

Special thanks to Race Committee chairman, **Red Wilson**, and the "**Pie Rats**," team who includes **Florrel Somers and Robert Campbell** for helping with the popular post-race socials.

The Wednesday Night Race series will finish out the season on Aug 28th. All members are invited to come out and enjoy the races and social. All members are encouraged to bring a pot luck dish to share. Please call SSBG Community Sailing at 409-572-2560 to RSVP so meal numbers are planned accordingly. .

Please remember the current no alcohol policy is in effect.

## 2019 Doolin Cup Regatta



**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

The Doolin Cup is an adaptive sailing regatta where at least the helmsman must have disability making them eligible, under the International Federation of Disabled Sailors (IFDS) Functional classification system, to compete in a sanctioned event. The Doolin Cup is a qualifier for the U.S. Sailing Para National Championships (Disabled Championships).

The 2020 Para Championship will be the Doolin Cup.

In the Doolin Cup boats are raced by a team of three sailors in sonars, which is the same boat used in the Paralympics from 2000 – 2016. The U.S. Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing will be the standards for which this race is governed by. On-site lodging is available for participants and volunteers. A volunteer sign-up email will be sent out in early August. STAY TUNED!

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

## 2019 Independence Cup Regatta

Two teams from Sea Star Base Galveston competed at the Independence Cup Regatta in Chicago on July 25th – 28th. Gregg Plunkett, last year's winner of the Independence Cup, will be attempting to defend his title. David Gaston and his team will be competing for the 4th year in a row. STAY TUNED! Results to come in the September newsletter.



## MARITIME EDUCATION & PROGRAMS



### **Aquatic Adventure Summer Camp is a hit with campers!**

The 2019 Aquatic Adventure Summer Camps have been busy, fun and loud with laughter since the beginning session on June 3rd. SSBG has had 65 overnight campers who stayed on base for the entire week of their camp experience. This year is the first year we have offered day camp opportunities and are pleased to announce that 112 campers have taken advantage of this availability. The camper feedback received after each session has exemplified the campers' overall experience and the expectation of returning campers. Sailing, fishing, Intro to S.C.U.B.A., and kayaking were the top activities reported in camper surveys.

Here is a communication we received from a happy camper's Grandmother: ***My grandson, Carson Thompson, attended Aquatic Adventure Camp last week (for the second year in a row) and I just want to let you all know how much he enjoyed spending the week there. He came home excited every evening and couldn't wait to go back the next morning.***

***I see so many benefits in your program: confidence building, making friends and instilling a love for the water, sailing and other water sports come to mind.***



*Thank you for taking such good care of him! -- Amber Jenkins*

The last session begins Aug. 3rd and registration is still available to get that last bit of summer fun in at SSBG. Go to [www.ssbgalveston.org/camps](http://www.ssbgalveston.org/camps) to register your camper today!



## SSBG bids farewell and appreciation to Capt. Margaret Candler and Haleigh Collins



**Capt. Margaret Candler**, SSBG Maritime Education Director, will be leaving the organization August 9th after 5 years of faithful service and dedication to the SSBG mission. We are fortunate to say that she will be returning from time to time to instruct some



**Haleigh Collins**, SSBG Maritime Education Coordinator, will be leaving SSBG August 21st to prepare for a move to the Bahamas where she will begin an internship to teach environmental education at a field station located on Andros Island. Haleigh

courses and hopefully take the BaySmart Express out with a few groups of youth. Capt. Candler will be taking a much needed rest after Aquatic Adventure Camp 2019 and preparing for the birth of her first grandchild in December. We wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavors and look forward to her return visits to SSBG. Godspeed Margaret!

has been with us for two years and has been vital in the facilitation of BaySmart Express trips, Aquatic Adventure Camps, kayaking courses, lifeguarding and swimming lessons. We wish Haleigh a safe journey and the best of luck in this next step in her career. Godspeed Haleigh!

What do you think of the revised newsletter format?

**I LOVE IT!**

Select

**I like it.**

Select

**It's ok.**

Select

**I'm not fond of it.**

Select